

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 IO-11 ISO-00 AGR-10 AID-05 EB-07

USIA-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 HEW-06 IGA-02 L-03 PA-02

PRS-01 ABF-01 OMB-01 /092 W
----- 113707

R 081637Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7957

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 05976

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, EAID, GW

SUBJECT: GERMAN DONOR ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES IN POPULATION ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 58729

1. SUMMARY. THE FRG DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY PROGRAM
FUNDS FOR POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS.
BILATERAL PROGRAMS DEPEND EXCLUSIVELY UPON REQUESTS
FROM LDC'S. ASIDE FROM THE FRG'S YEARLY CONTRIBU-
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TION TO THE UNFPA DATA ON POPULATION ASSISTANCE
IS AVAILABLE ONLY EX POST. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED FRG POPULATION PROGRAM WITH DR. ERNERT, DIRECTOR OF FRG'S POPULATION ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN THE MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HE WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED TO RECEIVE OUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AT THIS TIME SINCE THE DAC HAS RECENTLY PUT TOGETHER A PUBLICATION ON DONOR COUNTRY PROGRAMS IN THE POPULATION FIELD. THIS REPORT CONTAINS ANY OFFICIAL STATISTICS THAT ARE AVAILABLE ON GERMAN ASSISTANCE AND HAS AN UP-TO-DATE PRESENTATION OF THE COMPOSITION AND DIRECTIONS OF THE GERMAN POPULATION PROGRAM. HE ASSUMES THAT THIS REPORT IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. AID OFFICIALS.

3. THE FRG'S POPULATION PROGRAM REMAINS QUITE SMALL, IN PART DUE TO THE FUNDING REGIME IN THE ECONCOOPMIN. THERE IS NO FUNDING FOR A POPULATION PROGRAM PER SE, EXCEPT FOR THE DM 18 MILLION PROVIDED ANNUALLY TO THE UNFPA, OF WHICH 25 PERCENT IS CHanneLED TO IPPF. ERNERT DOES NOT EXPECT THE FRG CONTRIBUTION TO UNFPA TO BE INCREASED OR DECREASED IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS. ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS ARE MADE AT THE REQUEST OF RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. SINCE OTHER DONORS, THE U.S. AND SWEDEN IN PARTICULAR, ARE RECOGNIZED AS THE LEADERS IN THIS FIELD, THE FRG RECEIVES RELATIVELY FEW REQUESTS FOR POPULATION ASSISTANCE.

4. ERNERT IS HOPEFUL, HOWEVER, THAT RECIPIENT COUNTRIES WILL TAKE A GREATER INTEREST IN GERMAN ASSISTANCE. LEGISLATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON THE TYPE OF POPULATION ASSISTANCE THAT COULD BE PROVIDED HAVE NOW BEEN REMOVED, WITH ERNERT TELLING US THAT "AN UNTAPPED SOURCE OF WEALTH" FOR POPULATION PROGRAMS IS NOW AVAILABLE. REQUESTS FOR POPULATION ASSISTANCE COME FROM THE NORMAL ANNUAL BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON AID PROJECTS, WHICH IN GERMANY ARE CONDUCTED BY THE REGIONAL BUREAUS. ERNERT HAS HAD SOME UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

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SUCCESS IN KINDLING A GREATER INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE BUREAUS IN POPULATION PROGRAMS BUT HE CONFESSES THAT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

5. THE ONE MAJOR BILATERAL ACTIVITY OF THE FRG IN THE POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING FIELD IS IN BANGLADESH. THE FRG HAS PROVIDED DM 12 MILLION FOR ITS PROGRAM THERE. OTHER PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN INITIATED IN PAKISTAN AND A SMALL INITIAL VENTURE IN INDIA. IN THE PAST THE FRG HAS PROVIDED

PAKISTAN WITH CONTRACEPTIVES BUT IS NOW INTERESTED
IN ESTABLISHING A PRODUCTION FACILITY FOR THEM.
IN INDIA THE FRG'S SOLE CONTRIBUTION HAS BEEN IN
THE PROVISION OF PRINTING PRESSES FOR THE PRINTING
OF POPULATION LEAFLETS.

6. THE FRG HAS ALSO SUPPORTED THE EFFORTS OF THE
GERMAN CHURCHES IN THE DEVELOPMENT FIELD. BOTH
PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC INSTITUTIONS HAVE PROPOSED

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PROJECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REQUESTED BY LOCAL CHURCHES IN THE LDC'S. THE FRG CO-FINANCES UP TO 80 PERCENT OF THE COST OF THESE PROJECTS. RECENTLY DM 2 MILLION WAS PROVIDED TO BANGLADESH FOR A PROJECT SPONSORED BY THE PROTESTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION IN GERMANY.

7. ERNERT IS SOMEWHAT CONCERNED OVER THE RATHER FLIPPANT ATTITUDE TAKEN BY THE LDC'S TOWARD THE
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FUNDING OF POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING ACTIVITIES. FOR EXAMPLE, MANY OF THESE COUNTRIES BELIEVE THAT THE DONOR COUNTRIES WILL PROVIDE HEALTH AND POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING ASSISTANCE OVER AND ABOVE THEIR REGULAR BILATERAL CONTRIBUTIONS. THUS THEY FILL THEIR REQUESTS TO THE HILT WITH INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL REQUESTS. FOR A COUNTRY LIKE GERMANY THIS EFFECTIVELY MEANS THAT NO ASSISTANCE CAN BE PROVIDED IN THE POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING FIELD BECAUSE SPECIAL FUNDS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN THE BUDGET FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF THE BILATERAL PROGRAMS.

8. IF THE FRG IS TO PLAY A LARGER ROLE IN POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING ACTIVITIES, ERNERT BELIEVES IT WILL HAVE TO COME FROM PRESSURE AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL FROM THE WORLD BANK. IN A NUMBER OF CASES THE FRG HAS FOLLOWED THE LEAD OF THE WORLD BANK IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE IN SPECIFIC HEALTH AND POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING PROJECTS. BOTH AT THE PROJECT AND PROGRAM LEVEL, ERNERT BELIEVES THAT THE WORLD BANK WOULD BE A STIMULUS FOR INCREASED GERMAN PARTICIPATION. OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE POPULATION FIELD ARE NOT AS HIGHLY RESPECTED BY THE FRG (EXCEPT FOR IPPF) AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS NO INTEREST IN PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THESE ORGANIZATIONS. IN LINE WITH THEIR GENERAL POLICY ON DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, THE FRG OPPOSES A PROLIFERATION OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND WILL NOT PROVIDE FUNDS TO THEM.
HILLENBRAND

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